Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (previously presented): A method for obtaining metadata for a media content file storing media content, said media content file being stored on a computer storage medium, said method comprising:

populating a request data structure, said request data structure comprising a request type identifier defining a type for the computer storage medium, a request identifier, and a plurality of metadata elements stored with the media content file;

requesting metadata for the media content file from a metadata provider via the populated request data structure, wherein, in response to receiving the populated request data structure, the metadata provider searches for the requested metadata in a database based on the received plurality of metadata elements and identifies relevant metadata from the search results;

receiving a return data structure from the metadata provider, said return data structure storing a return type identifier defining the type for the computer storage medium, the request identifier, identified relevant metadata corresponding to the requested metadata, and a delay time interval; and

postponing additional requests for metadata until after the delay time interval has elapsed.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the return metadata comprises metadata determined by the metadata provider to be associated with the media content file.

Claim 3-4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the type relates to at least one of the following: a compact disc, a digital versatile disc, and flash memory.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the computer storage medium comprises one or more of the following: a compact disc, a digital versatile disc, and flash memory.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the metadata provider comprises a computer.

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

associating the return metadata or a portion thereof with namespace identifiers including at least one of WMContentID, WMCollectionID, and WMCollectionGroupID; and

storing the namespace identifiers and associated metadata with the media content file.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the return metadata comprises a globally unique identifier.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising classifying the media content with namespace identifiers including at least one of WMPrimaryClassID and WMSecondaryClassID.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising associated the return metadata or a portion thereof with a namespace identifier representing a box set identifier.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the metadata elements in the request data structure comprise values associated with namespace identifiers including at least one of WMContentID, WMCollectionID, WMCollectionGroupID, WMPrimaryClassID, and WMSecondaryClassID, wherein the values and namespace identifiers are stored in the media content file.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 13, wherein requesting the metadata comprises requesting the metadata from at least one of the following: a local cache, a network server, and a client computer.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the media content file comprises one of a plurality of songs in an album, wherein requesting the metadata comprises requesting metadata for the song included in the media content file, and wherein the return metadata comprises metadata for the plurality of songs in the album at least one of the plurality of songs not included in the media content file.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the return metadata in a cache.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the return metadata with the media content file.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising requesting additional metadata from the metadata provider using a portion of the return metadata.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein requesting the metadata comprises formulating a network address with one or more query string parameters, said formulated network address representing the request data structure.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the network address comprises a uniform resource locator.

Claim 21 (canceled).

Claim 22 (previously presented): One or more computer storage media having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

23-28 (canceled).

Claim 29 (previously presented): One or more computer storage media having computer-executable components for obtaining metadata for a media content file storing media content, said media content file being stored on a computer storage medium, said components comprising:

a query component for populating a request data structure, said request data structure comprising a request type identifier defining a type for the computer storage medium, a request identifier, and plurality of metadata elements stored with the media content file, said query component further requesting metadata for the media content file from a metadata provider via the populated request data structure, wherein, in response to receiving the populated request data structure, the metadata provider searches for the requested metadata in a database based on the received plurality of metadata elements and identifies relevant metadata from the search; and

an interface component for receiving a return data structure from the metadata provider in response to the request sent by the query component, said return data structure storing a delay time interval, a return type identifier defining the type for the computer storage medium, the request identifier, and identified relevant metadata corresponding to the requested metadata, wherein the query component postpones additional requests for metadata from the metadata provider until after the delay time interval has elapsed.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The computer storage media of claim 29, wherein the return metadata comprises metadata determined by the metadata provider to be associated with the media content file.

Claim 31-32 (canceled).

Claim 33 (previously presented): The computer storage media of claim 29, further comprising an authoring component for:

associating the return metadata or a portion thereof with namespace identifiers including at least one of WMContentID, WMCollectionID, and WMCollectionGroupID; and

storing the namespace identifiers and associated metadata with the media content file.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The computer storage media of claim 33, wherein the authoring component further classifies the media content using other namespace identifiers including at least one of WMPrimaryClassID and WMSecondaryClassID.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The computer storage media of claim 33, wherein the authoring component further comprises:

determining an identifier value;

associating the determined identifier value with media content; and

assigning the determined identifier value to one or more of the following namespace identifiers: WMContentID, WMCollectionID, and WMCollectionGroupID; and

storing the identifier value and assigned namespace identifiers with the media content.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The computer storage media of claim 29, wherein the metadata elements in the request data structure comprise values associated with namespace identifiers including at least one of WMContentID, WMCollectionID, WMCollectionGroupID, WMPrimaryClassID, and WMSecondaryClassID, wherein the values and namespace identifiers are stored in the media content file.

Claim 37 (previously amended): A media player comprising computer-executable instructions for obtaining metadata for a media content file, said media content file being stored on a computer storage medium, said instructions comprising:

populating a request data structure, said request data structure comprising a request type identifier defining a type for the computer storage medium, a request identifier, and a plurality of metadata elements stored with the media content file;

requesting metadata for the media content file from a metadata provider via the populated request data structure, wherein, in response to receiving the populated request data structure, the metadata provider searches for the requested metadata in a database based on the received plurality of metadata elements, identifies relevant metadata from the search results, and correlates relevant metadata from the search results to compute an accuracy rating based on the received plurality of metadata elements;

receiving a return data structure including the accuracy rating from the metadata provider, said return data structure storing a delay time interval, a return type identifier defining the type for the computer storage medium, the request identifier, and the identified relevant metadata corresponding to the requested metadata; and

postponing additional requests for metadata from the metadata provider until after the delay time interval has elapsed.

Claim 38 (original): The media player of claim 37, wherein the instructions further comprise classifying the media content file based on the return metadata.

Claim 39 (canceled).

Claim 40 (original): The media player of claim 37, wherein the instructions further comprise:

associating the return metadata or a portion thereof with namespace identifiers including at least one of WMContentID, WMCollectionID, WMCollectionGroupID; and

storing the namespace identifiers and associated metadata with the media content file.

Claim 41 (original): The media player of claim 37, wherein the instructions further comprise classifying the media content using other namespace identifiers including at least one of the following: WMPrimaryClassID and WMSecondaryClassID.

Claim 42 (original): The media player of claim 37, wherein the instructions further comprise:

determining an identifier value;

associating the determined identifier value with media content; and

assigning the determined identifier value to one or more of the following namespace identifiers: WMContentID, WMCollectionID, and WMCollectionGroupID; and

storing the identifier value and assigned fields with the media content.

Claim 43 (previously presented): A computer storage medium having stored thereon a data structure representing a request for metadata, said data structure for transmission by a first computing device to a second computing device to request metadata for media content, said data structure comprising:

a request type identifier defining a type for a destination computer storage medium storing the media content, said media content being one song from a plurality of songs associated with an album;

a request identifier; and

one or more metadata elements stored with the media content, wherein, in response to the receipt of the data structure, the second computing device returns metadata for each of the plurality of songs associated with the album .

Claim 44 (canceled).

Claim 45 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 43, wherein the type relates to at least one of the following: a compact disc, a digital versatile disc, and flash memory.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 43, wherein the destination computer storage medium comprises one or more of the following: a compact disc, a digital versatile disc, and flash memory.

Claim 47 (previously presented): A computer storage medium having stored thereon a data structure sent from a first computing device to a second computing device in response to a request for metadata sent by the second computing device, said data structure comprising:

a return type identifier defining a type for a destination computer storage medium storing the media content, said media content being one song from a plurality of songs associated with an album, ;

a request identifier; and

return metadata for the plurality of songs associated with the album corresponding to the requested metadata including a delay time interval, wherein the second computing device postpones sending additional requests until after the delay time interval has elapsed.

Claim 48-49 (canceled).

Claim 50 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 47, wherein the type relates to at least one of the following: a compact disc, a digital versatile disc, and flash memory.

Claim 51 (previously presented): A computer storage medium having stored thereon a data structure representing a namespace for identifying media content, said data structure comprising:

a first field storing a content identifier value, said first field having a label of WMContentID, said content identifier value being a GUID value representing a performance of a particular work as it relates to a collection, said performance being embodied in the media content;

a second field storing a collection identifier value, said second field having a label of WMCollectionID, said collection identifier value being a GUID value representing a single physical medium of the collection wherein the physical medium represented by the WMCollectionID includes the performance represented by the WMContentID; and

a third field storing a group identifier value, said third field having a label of WMCollectionGroupID, said group identifier value being a GUID value representing a plurality physical medium of the collection, wherein the single physical medium represented by the WMCollectionID is one of the plurality of physical medium of the collection associated with the WMCollectionGroupID and said first, second, and third fields represent increasing levels of granularity for characterizing the media content.

Claim 52 (canceled).

Claim 53 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 51, wherein the content identifier value, the collection identifier value, and the group identifier value each comprise a globally unique identifier.

Claim 54 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 51, wherein the third field represents a box set identifier.

Claim 55-63 (canceled).

Claim 64 (currently amended): A method for obtaining metadata for media content, said media content being stored on a computer storage medium, said method comprising:

formulating a network address with a query string parameter, said query string parameter comprising an identifier and a value associated therewith, said identifier or a portion thereof comprising the text string WMID, said associated value corresponding to the media content, wherein the media content file comprises one of a plurality of songs in an album;

requesting metadata for the media content file from a metadata provider via the formulated network address; and

receiving a return data structure from the metadata provider, said return data structure storing a return type identifier defining a type for the computer storage medium, a request identifier, and return metadata corresponding to the metadata for each of the plurality of songs in the album.

Claim 65 (original): The method of claim 64, wherein the formulated network address comprises a uniform resource locator.

Claim 66 (canceled).

Claim 67 (original): The method of claim 64, further comprising another query string parameter, said query string parameter comprising another identifier and another value associated therewith,

said other identifier comprising one or more of the following: VERSION, LOCALE, and REQUESTID.

Claim 68-72 (canceled).